



Photo by Pvt. 2 Terri Rorke

Keeping a 'vigilant' eye ...

A paratrooper of 2nd Battalion, 504th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division, Fort Bragg, N.C., pulls guard duty during Operation Vigilant Guardian in the village of Loi Kariz, about 15 kilometers from the Pakistan border.

MWR areas overlooked by patrons

Spc. Debralee P. Crankshaw
11th Public Affairs Detachment

BAGRAM, Afghanistan — In a small room, where few people enter there is a wealth of knowledge and plenty of fun.

This room is not hidden, just hard to find. It is the library in Dragon Palace. The library holds many books that may be taken by any servicemember. There are also board games in the library and tables and chairs to play them or to read.

In addition to the library, the theater in Dragon Palace plays movies throughout the day as well as sporting events.

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Koreans celebrate Children's Day in Afghanistan

Story and photos by
Pfc. Christina Carde
11th Public Affairs Detachment

BAGRAM, Afghanistan — In Korea, May 5 marks Children's Day, a national holiday where parents take their children on outings, give them gifts and let them know how important they are. Some would think gloom and depression would be the attitude of Korean parents deployed here, but instead the Korean soldiers decided to share their tradition with other children.

In the 1920's, a teacher named Pang Junge Whan decided a day should be set aside to honor children by rewarding them for their hard work through gifts and day trips. This day was also set aside for parents to take time off from their busy schedules to bond with their children and remind them of their history, culture and traditions.

Col. Soohyun Kim, commander, Bagram Korean Clinic, said he remembered the many Children's Days he spent in Korea as a child shortly after the Korean War, and how the children here remind him of himself 30 years ago.



Col. Soohyun Kim, commander, Korean Hospital, greets local Afghan children after his speech to them on the importance of Children's Day. In his speech, Kim told the children to study hard because they are the future of Afghanistan.

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World News (Compiled from CNN.com)



Artifacts are placed on a table at the Iraqi National Museum after being recovered.

Thousands of Iraqi artifacts found

WASHINGTON — U.S. Customs agents, working with military and museum experts at the National Museum in Baghdad, have recovered nearly 40,000 manuscripts and about 700 artifacts, government officials announced in Washington Wednesday, leaving perhaps only a few dozen key pieces missing.

The museum was looted after the city fell to U.S.-led forces last month, but there has been disagreement since then about how many and what kinds of items were taken. U.S. officials believe some valuable pieces were taken by professional thieves.

Agents of the Bureau of Immigration and Customs (ICE) said that so far they have photos and documentation to confirm only 38 items from the museum are still missing. Although they suspect additional pieces may have been stolen, they declined to speculate on the scope of the additional uncatalogued items that may have been looted.

Officials from ICE, newly created as part of the Department of Homeland Security, said many of the missing items had been stored for safekeeping in hidden storage vaults within the museum before the war. Other items had been returned after public promises of amnesty and rewards.

Agents said they have found evidence that certain select high-value pieces had been stolen.

Officials from a U.S. government delegation, which just returned to Washington from

an Interpol conference on the missing antiquities in Lyon, France, this week, said the number of missing artifacts was never mentioned in their meetings.

Attorney General John Ashcroft, who led the group, vowed to help the global effort to recover missing items, but did not mention any numbers or refer to the scope of the Baghdad museum thefts.

The Justice Department officials said their best information continues to be that whatever the scope, the thefts were organized, not the result of random crime.

Video shows inside look at al Qaeda cell, authorities say

HAMBURG, Germany — A videotape obtained by CNN shows 9/11 hijackers and suspected plotters attending a wedding reception in Hamburg, Germany, two years before the terrorist attacks on the United States.

The tape offers a rare, inside look at behavior among members of an al Qaeda terrorist cell in Hamburg thought to be behind the 2001 attacks, German authorities said.

The video — received by CNN on Tuesday — shows a reception at the October 1999 wedding of Said Bahaji, who is wanted by German authorities for suspected involvement in the attacks. He is believed to have fled to Pakistan shortly before they occurred, and is still at large.

At one point on the 30-minute tape, a wedding guest — Ramzi Binalshibh — speaks out against Israel and, in a possible reference to the attacks, says, “We are still in Arabic class and, at the end of the class, there will be a test and the test is the meal, God willing. There will be those who pass and those who fail.”

Binalshibh is accused of helping to coordinate the attacks as a leader of the cell. He was captured in Karachi, Pakistan, on September 11, 2002.

Binalshibh was named as a member of the cell by Mounir el Motassadeq, a Moroccan convicted in February of being an accessory to the attacks.

The video shows that Bahaji had a personal link with members of the cell, German authorities said.

Two September 11 hijackers — Marwan al-Shehhi and Ziad Jarrah — are also seen at the reception, with the others. Al-Shehhi hijacked United Airlines Flight 175, which crashed into the World Trade Center. Jarrah was one of the hijackers on United Airlines Flight 93, which slammed into a field in Pennsylvania.



Birmingham, Alabama, firefighter Ron Smith carries Brooke Pair through the rain after her school flooded Wednesday.

States face new tornado forecast

CARROLLTON, Georgia — Severe thunderstorms rumbled across central Alabama and northern Georgia Wednesday night, uprooting trees, downing power lines and swamping areas already deluged by three straight days of heavy rains.

And while the Southeast braced for another night of powerful storms, forecasters warned that conditions were ripe for Kansas, Missouri and Arkansas to be hit by more tornadoes Thursday.

Those states were heavily damaged earlier this week in one of the most intense outbreaks of tornadoes in 53 years of record-keeping.

Officials have recorded 135 tornadoes for the week since Sunday. More than 40 people have been killed in the non-stop storms.

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"We like to show sporting events in the morning and when that's over we start playing random movies until the (1530Z) movie. Other than the movie, people can request movies and even have their own played," said Jimmy Ferrazas, Kellogg, Brown and Root labor foreman/Morale, Welfare and Recreation staff. "When people are clearing they will wander in here and say 'I never knew the theater was here.'"

Other little known services include free fresh popcorn and air conditioned facilities. MWR has also recently received a new projector so now some movies will be shown on the big screen rather than the TV.

MWR also offers a cyber café with 15 computers, a phone room with 15 phones and a PlayStation II game room with six PlayStations. All services are open 22 hours a day, closed from 2130Z-2330Z.

"It's a place to relax – to find an escape," said Ferrazas.

"We always have dances and tournaments to get involved in and have some fun," said Ferrazas. "We have something for everyone — if not we'll try to arrange it."

To arrange to host an event coordinate through MWR in Dragon Palace. Upcoming events include a country western dance, jazz night, a power lifting competition, a hearts tournament and a PlayStation II tournament.



Photo by Spc. Debralee P. Crankshaw

An Afghan straightens the rarely used library in Dragon Palace. The library offers a variety of books and board games.

Bagram Air Base MWR presents

1530Z at the MWR building: "Femme Fatale." A woman tries to straighten out her life, even as her past as a con-woman comes back to haunt her.



Tomorrow's movie will be "Road to Perdition."

Local weather

TWO-DAY REGIONAL WEATHER FORECAST:

	<i>Today</i>	<i>Friday</i>
Bagram:	Scattered t-storms H: 86F L: 46F	Mostly cloudy H: 84F L: 50F
Kandahar:	Dust H: 90F L: 59F	Dust H: 93F L: 63F
Kabul:	Scattered t-storms H: 84F L: 48F	Scattered showers H: 82F L: 50F
Uzbekistan:	Partly cloudy H: 86F L: 46F	Mostly cloudy H: 83F L: 42F

Weather forecast courtesy of the Bagram Combat Weather Team

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A Korean soldier oversees the distribution of the school supplies and food brought for local Afghan school.

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For this reason, he decided to honor Whan's tradition by having a Children's Day celebration with local Afghan school children not only to give them gifts, but to remind them they are the future of this country.



About 500 local Afghan school children wait patiently to receive snacks, lunches, school supplies and other gifts the soldiers of the Korean Clinic brought.

"In the 1950's my country was bare, desolate and one of the poorest in the world because of the war," said Kim. "Now, we are the 10th most successful country in the world both industrially and economically due to the efforts of the businessman, scholars and politicians who were the children of that era."

As Kim looked over the crowd of about 500 children, he said he could see the same deter-

mination and ambition in their eyes that led Korea to success.

"I know you are very intelligent boys and girls who want to make a difference in your country," said Kim. "The American and coalition forces are here to help you much like they helped us, but you must understand that it is you and not them who will bring prosperity to Afghanistan. This is your country and it's up to you to make it great."

As Kim spoke to the children, his soldiers were busy behind him unloading boxes of paper, notebooks, pens, milk and bagged lunches to give to the teachers for distribution. After his speech, Kim and the other Korean soldiers greeted the children with smiles and handshakes.

"You must stay in school and finish your education," Kim said. "The key to success is studying hard and making something of yourselves so you can be powerful men and women who will change the face of this country."

Even though the Korean soldiers missed their children perhaps more on this day than usual, Kim said celebrating children's day here was a rewarding experience.

"I remember being in the same place many of these children are, 40 years ago when the American and coalition forces were helping us get back on our feet, and the prosperity of Korea was just a dream," said Kim. "Decades later, I am a proud citizen of that same country that now has the capability to help others and tell them their dream can become a reality."



Korean soldiers from the Bagram Korean clinic, prepare to issue lunch packs, school supplies and other items to local Afghan children in honor of the Korean holiday, Children's Day.



Coalition Sports Zone

(Compiled from *ESPN.com*)



Dwayne Roloson, left, got plenty of help Wednesday night.

Wild sidestep elimination for fifth time this postseason

ST. PAUL, Minn. — The Minnesota Wild won't go away, and they won't stop scoring, either.

Andrew Brunette's two goals led another unlikely outburst by the Wild, who sidestepped elimination for the fifth time this postseason with a 5-1 victory over the Vancouver Canucks on Wednesday night.

The Western Conference semifinal series is tied at 3, with a deciding Game 7 set for Thursday in Vancouver. The winner will face the Anaheim Mighty Ducks in the West finals.

Dwayne Roloson made 30 saves for Minnesota, who also got goals from Darby Hendrickson, Antti Laaksonen and seldom-used Lubomir Sekeras. Marian Gaborik and Cliff Ronning each had two assists as the Wild went 3-for-5 on the power play.

The Wild, who've scored 12 goals the last two games, are an NHL-leading 14-for-55 (25.5 percent) on the man advantage during the postseason.

Minnesota was a surprise qualifier for the playoffs in its third season, but the Wild are a game away from advancing to the conference finals. They became just the fourth team in NHL history to win five elimination games in one postseason.

No team has ever overcome two 3-1 series deficits in the same postseason. The Wild trailed Colorado by that number in the first round before winning three straight — two in Denver.

Ed Jovanovski scored his seventh goal of the playoffs for the Canucks, who have not lost three straight all season.

Canucks goalie Dan Cloutier, pulled after giving up six goals in two periods on Monday, fell apart in the final

period amid thundering chants of "Sieve! Sieve! Sieve!" from the overflow crowd of 19,350.

Hendrickson, Laaksonen and Brunette scored in a third period that turned ugly toward the end. Eight of the game's 15 penalties were called in the final frame.

The Canucks, admittedly embarrassed by their effort and the outcome of Monday's 7-2 home loss in Game 5, completely controlled the first period and outshot the Wild 12-4.

Vancouver's defense, led by Brent Sopel, Mattias Ohlund and Jovanovski, blocked dozens of shots and kept Minnesota from getting any quality scoring chances or finding any offensive flow.

Roloson — 4-4 in the postseason — was sharp, though, and the Wild looked like a new team in the next period.

They didn't quite match the franchise-record five goals they scored in the second period on Monday, but came close.

Jarko Ruutu, who's been a part of several of the tussles in this series, complained to the officials about his roughing penalty at 3:31 of the second period all the way to the box. With nine seconds left on the power play, Cloutier knocked Gaborik's shot away — right to Brunette, who didn't get a clean shot off as he fell forward. It still went in, giving Minnesota the lead. Trevor Linden was whistled for high-sticking later in the period.

—see **SPORTS**, page 6



2002/2003 National Hockey League standings

Eastern Conference

Atlantic

(2) New Jersey	108 pts
(4) Philadelphia	107 pts
(8) N.Y. Islanders	83 pts
N.Y. Rangers	78 pts
Pittsburgh	65 pts

Northeast

(1) Ottawa	113 pts
(5) Toronto	98 pts
(7) Boston	87 pts
Montreal	77 pts
Buffalo	72 pts

Southeast

(3) Tampa Bay	93 pts
(6) Washington	92 pts
Atlanta	74 pts
Florida	70 pts
Carolina	61 pts

Western Conference

Central

(2) Detroit	110 pts
(5) St. Louis	99 pts
Chicago	79 pts
Nashville	74 pts
Columbus	69 pts

Northwest

(4) Vancouver	104 pts
(3) Colorado	105 pts
(6) Minnesota	95 pts
(8) Edmonton	92 pts
Calgary	75 pts

Pacific

(1) Dallas	111 pts
(7) Anaheim	95 pts
Los Angeles	78 pts
Phoenix	78 pts
San Jose	73 pts

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GM McPhee says it's a 'mutual separation'

WASHINGTON — Calle Johansson will not return to the Washington Capitals next season, a decision made on the heels of the defenseman's disagreements with rookie coach Bruce Cassidy.

"This is a mutual separation," general manager George McPhee said. "Calle is not sure if he will play next season, but if he does, he'll explore free agency."

Johansson has been with the Capitals since a 1989 trade sent him to Washington from the Buffalo Sabres. McPhee said Johansson is welcome on the Capitals' European scouting staff if he chooses to end his playing career.

Johansson, 36, didn't see eye-to-eye with Cassidy during the coach's first NHL season. Johansson was upset about being benched for most of overtime in the Capitals' loss in Game 6 to Tampa Bay that eliminated Washington from the playoffs.

"I would like to thank the fans, who were always supportive of my efforts, and my teammates and training staff, who made the last 15 years extremely special," Johansson said. "A big piece of my heart will always be in Washington."

A native of Goteberg, Sweden, Johansson holds several Capitals records. He played 983 games during a record number of seasons, and has more points, assists and power-play goals than any defenseman in Capitals history.

Johansson has 119 goals and 410 assists in 1,101 career games.

Sanderson, Vyborny agree to deals

COLUMBUS, Ohio — The Columbus Blue Jackets retained two of their top three goal scorers on Wednesday as left wing Geoff Sanderson and right wing David Vyborny have both agreed to terms with the club. Sanderson signed a multi-year contract and Vyborny agreed to terms on a one-year deal. Financial terms were not disclosed. The 31-year-old Sanderson set a franchise record with 34 goals and added 33 assists in 82 games this season. He reached the 30-goal mark for the sixth time in his NHL career and second time in three seasons for the Blue Jackets. Sanderson, who was selected by the Blue Jackets in the 2000 expansion draft, also set club marks for power-play goals (15) and shots on goal (286). He has 300 goals and 576 points in 13 NHL seasons. Vyborny set career highs in goals (20), assists (26) and points (46) in 79 games last season. He set franchise records with a plus-12 rating and was plus in 64 contests. The 27-year-old Czech has spent all three of his NHL seasons with the Blue Jackets after signing with them as a free agent. He owns 46 goals and 109 points in 233 career games.

Sweden rallies from 5-1 deficit to advance

HELSINKI, Finland — P.J. Axelsson scored with 4:54 to play as Sweden rallied from a 5-1 deficit to beat Finland 6-5 Wednesday and advance to the semifinals of the World Hockey Championships. Sweden will play defending champion Slovakia on Friday. Slovakia beat Switzerland 3-1. In Turku, Olympic cham-

pion Canada advanced with a 3-2 victory over Germany, on Eric Brewer's goal 37 seconds into overtime. The Canadians will play the Czech Republic, which beat Russia 3-0 in the other quarterfinal. Finland went ahead 5-1 after Teemu Selanne completed a hat trick with a power-play goal 6:44 into the second period. But before a stunned sellout crowd of 13,441, the Swedes came all the way back to beat their rivals. "It's hard to believe," said Swedish backup goalie Mikael Tellqvist, who replaced the Edmonton Oilers' Tommy Salo after he gave up the fifth Finnish goal. Former NHL player Jorgen Jonsson started the rally by beating goalie Jani Hurme with a slap shot from the point at 8:04 into the second period. Peter Forsberg of the Colorado Avalanche cut the score to 5-3 with the first of his two goals, flipping a backhander into the net on a power play. Jonas Hoglund made it 5-4, connecting with a one-timer from the slot. The Finns introduced Pasi Nurminen in goal at the start of the third period, but it didn't help. Forsberg got the equalizer at 8:22 in the third with one of the most stunning goals in the tournament, going the length of the ice and capping the great rush with a wraparound goal from a sharp angle. Axelsson, who plays for the Boston Bruins, scored the winner by tipping in a shot from the point by Ronnie Sundin against the short-handed Finns. "It was a nightmare finish for the Finnish team," said Finland's head coach, Hannu Aravirta, who announced earlier that he was retiring after these championships. Mats Sundin, the Toronto Maple Leafs captain, also scored for the Swedes. Canada blew a 2-0 third-period lead against Germany before Brewer sent a wrist shot past screened goalie Robert Muller on a power play. It was his first goal of the tournament. Milan Hejduk, who led the NHL this season with 50 goals, had a goal and an assist in the Czech Republic's win over Russia. Last year, the Czechs were denied a bid for a fourth straight world title when they were beaten by Russia in the quarterfinals.

"The prisoners are demanding to be put back on bread and water."



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By Kevin Kilgore

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